PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number:

2000-261284

(43) Date of publication of application: 22.09.2000

(51)Int.CI.

H03H 9/25

H03H 3/08

(21)Application number: 11-059269 (71)Applicant: KYOCERA CORP

(22)Date of filing:

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(54) SURFACE ACOUSTIC WAVE DEVICE AND ITS PRODUCTION (57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a surface acoustic wave device such as a surface acoustic wave filter or an oscillator, which has the size of the occupation area of the outside shape approximately equal to that of an incorporated surface acoustic wave element and is extremely miniaturized and is capable of surface mounting, and a production method which can perform the production up to packaging in the wafer state and is superior in mass productivity.

SOLUTION: In a surface acoustic wave device S, an excitation electrode 2 covered with a protection cover 4 and input/output pads 3a and 3b connected to this excitation electrode 2 are formed on a piezoelectric substrate 1, and columnar electrodes 5 are stood on input/output pads, and at least outer peripheral parts of columnar electrodes 5 are surrounded with an insulator 6, and upper end parts of columnar electrodes 5 are used as input/output terminals of

LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

25.03.2003

[Date of sending the examiner's

decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number]

3677409

[Date of registration]

13.05.2005

[Number of appeal against examiner's

decision of rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's decision of rejection]

[Date of extinction of right]

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[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] Surface acoustic wave equipment characterized by having surrounded the periphery section of said pillar-shaped electrode with the insulator at least, having changed, and making the upper bed section of said pillar-shaped electrode into the input/output terminal of an electrical signal while forming the I/O pad connected to the excitation electrode and this excitation electrode which were covered with the protective cover on the piezo-electric substrate and setting up the pillar-shaped electrode on each I/O pad.

[Claim 2] Said protective cover is surface acoustic wave equipment according to claim 1 characterized by having conductivity and being arranged through an insulating member on said I/O pad.

[Claim 3] The process which forms a protective cover on the substrate for covering formation, and the process which forms the I/O pad connected to an excitation electrode and this excitation electrode on a piezo-electric substrate, The process which pastes up a protective cover on a piezo-electric substrate in order to cover said excitation electrode with said protective cover, The manufacture approach of the surface acoustic wave equipment characterized by including the process which removes said substrate for covering formation, the process which forms a pillar-shaped electrode on said I/O pad, and the process which surrounds the periphery section of said pillar-shaped electrode with an insulator at least, and makes an input/output terminal the upper bed section of said pillar-shaped electrode.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention] [0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the possible surface acoustic wave equipment and its manufacture approach of carrying out to packaging especially in a miniaturization and wafer process of the surface acoustic wave equipment in which a surface mount is possible about the surface acoustic wave equipment mainly used for radiocommunication circuits, such as mobile communication equipment.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] In recent years, many surface acoustic wave equipments are used as components, such as a filter of the electronic equipment using an electric wave, the delay line, and a transmitter. Especially the small and lightweight surface acoustic wave filter with the high steep cutoff engine performance as a filter is coming to be used abundantly in the mobile communications field as a filter of RF stage of personal digital assistant equipment, and IF stage.

[0003] The circuit built in by multi-band-ization corresponding to two or more communication system while small and lightweight-ization progress is increasing personal digital assistant equipment, and, as for the electronic parts used, the small components in which a surface mount is possible are strongly demanded for the improvement in packaging density. Also in the surface acoustic wave filter which is the key parts of personal digital assistant equipment, the small surface acoustic wave filter in which a surface mount is possible is demanded with the

operating characteristic outside low loss and a passband.

[0004] Conventionally, although, as for the surface acoustic wave filter, the ceramic package mold is put in practical use from the thing of a can package mold, compared with a can package mold, a surface mount is possible for a ceramic package mold, and it is widely used increasingly as surface acoustic wave equipment which can realize a miniaturization especially.

[0005] Although the ceramic package mold surface acoustic wave filter of the 1st generation was carrying out electrical connection of the surface acoustic element which carried out adhesion immobilization, and the internal electrode of a package by wire bonding into the package, by using wire bonding, the package appearance became large and the surface acoustic wave filter was 6 times [5] times to] the occupancy area of the surface acoustic element to build in.

[0006] In order to solve this and to attain a miniaturization, as shown in drawing 6, what carried out face down bonding of the surface acoustic element to the interior of a package has been put in practical use as a ceramic package mold surface acoustic wave filter of the second generation.

[0007] This surface acoustic wave filter J consists of the substrate 51 which consists of the piezoelectric single crystal with which the excitation electrode 2 was mainly formed, and the ceramic package which holds it and changes, and a SEMIKKU package consists of a base 53, a frame 54, a lid 55 and an internal electrode 56, and external electrode 57 grade. As for the surface acoustic element, the excitation electrode 52 and external electrode 57 of a package are electrically connected through the pad 58 and the bump 59.

[0008] With this surface acoustic wave filter J, since wire bonding is not used, the miniaturization of about 1/2 can be attained compared with the ceramic package mold surface acoustic wave filter of the 1st generation.

[0009]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, also in the ceramic package mold surface acoustic wave filter of the face down mounting method of the second generation, the magnitude of the appearance of a package is about 3

times the surface acoustic element to build in, and has the problem that it is not fully miniaturized.

[0010] Moreover, the mounting approach to the conventional package had the fault that mass production nature was missing, in order to use the package according to individual and to perform an assembly, after cutting a device chip from a wafer.

[0011] Then, this invention is made in order to cope with such a technical problem, and it is possible to carry out to packaging in the state of surface acoustic wave equipments miniaturized by the extreme almost equal to the surface acoustic element which the magnitude of the occupancy area of an appearance builds in, such as a surface acoustic wave filter in which a surface mount is possible, and a trembler, and a wafer, and it aims at offering the manufacture approach excellent in mass production nature.

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to solve the above-mentioned technical problem, the periphery section of a pillar-shaped electrode is surrounded with an insulator at least, and the surface acoustic wave equipment of this invention changes, and is characterized by to make the upper bed section of a pillar-shaped electrode into the input/output terminal of an electrical signal while it forms the I/O pad connected to the excitation electrode and this excitation electrode which were covered with the protective cover on the piezo-electric substrate and sets up a pillar-shaped electrode on each I/O pad.

[0013] It is characterized by for especially a protective cover having conductivity and arranging it through an insulating member on an I/O pad.

[0014] Moreover, the manufacture approach of the surface acoustic wave equipment of this invention The process which forms a protective cover on the substrate for covering formation, and the process which forms the I/O pad connected to an excitation electrode and this excitation electrode on a piezo-electric substrate, The process which pastes up a protective cover on a piezo-electric substrate in order to cover said excitation electrode with said protective

cover, The process which removes the substrate for covering formation, the process which forms a pillar-shaped electrode on an I/O pad, and the process which surrounds the periphery section of a pillar-shaped electrode with an insulator at least, and makes an input/output terminal the upper bed section of a pillar-shaped electrode are included.

[0015] Forming by plating can produce upwards efficiently and especially a protective cover can be considered as a strong configuration here. Moreover, in order to secure the oscillating space of an excitation electrode, let this protective cover be the mode which established the crevice in the field which constitutes an excitation electrode at least, and which is equivalent to a ctenidium-like electrode, for example. Furthermore, this crevice is good to form in two or more fields according to the formation field of an excitation electrode, and to make it arranged symmetrically or geometrically.

[0016]

[Embodiment of the Invention] Hereafter, 1 operation gestalt of the surface acoustic wave equipment concerning this invention is explained based on a drawing.

[0017] Drawing 1 is the important section sectional view showing surface acoustic wave equipment S typically, and is not what showed typically signs that it cut by the profile line which passes along an excitation electrode and two pillar-shaped electrodes, and not necessarily illustrated the situation of the cross section to accuracy.

[0018] The wiring electrode 3 which surface acoustic wave equipment S is connected with the excitation electrode 2 which constitutes the shape of a ctenidium on the piezo-electric substrate 1 at this, and contains an I/O pad and a touch-down pad, Two or more pillar-shaped electrodes 5 set up on the wiring electrode 3 (at least I/O pad), The protective cover 4 which consists the upper part of the excitation electrode 2 of a wrap metal etc. that the oscillating space G of the excitation electrode 2 should be secured, and the external covering 6 which consists the periphery section of the pillar-shaped electrode 5 of insulators,

such as resin, at least are arranged, it changes, and the upper bed section of the pillar-shaped electrode 5 is made into the input/output terminal of an electrical signal. 7 is a solder bump, for example, it is possible to mount by turning down the side by which the solder bump 7 was formed in the external circuit substrate (un-illustrating).

[0019] A protective cover 4 can be shielded to the electric wave used as disturbance etc. here by considering as conductivity, and it is possible to attain stabilization of surface acoustic wave equipment. However, a protective cover 4 is arranged through an insulating member 8 on an I/O pad in this case. In addition, in order to attain stabilization further, you may make it connect a protective cover 4 to touch-down potential.

[0020] Next, the manufacture approach of the above-mentioned surface acoustic wave equipment S is explained. First, the making process on the substrate 11 with which the protective cover 4 was arranged is explained based on drawing 2. In addition, since drawing 2 is easy, many protective cover formation regions corresponding to the excitation electrode field formed in the wafer which illustrates typically and selectively the process which produces a protective cover, and carries out a postscript actually on a substrate required to form one surface acoustic element shall exist.

[0021] As shown in drawing 2 (a), the electrode layer 40 for plating is formed in the piezo-electric substrate which forms a surface acoustic element, and the substrate (substrate for covering formation) 11 of the same size. In addition, a piezoelectric ingredient, silicon, glass, etc. can be used for a substrate 11.

Moreover, an electrode layer 40 is formed in 0.2 micrometers - about 1 micrometer in thickness by spatter membrane formation, using metallic materials, such as copper.

[0022] Next, as shown in drawing 2 (b), the guide for plating of the part equivalent to the upper part of a protective cover is formed with photolithography. Here, thickness of a photoresist 90 is set to 50 micrometers - about 100 micrometers.

[0023] Next, as shown in drawing 2 (c), the field 41 which is equivalent to the upper part side of a protective cover with the electrolytic plating of the above-mentioned metallic material (for example, copper) is formed. the electric-field liquid used at this time -- a copper sulfate 0.5 - 1.0x103 mol / m3 A sulfuric acid 1.5 - 2x103 mol / m3 etc. -- it uses and normal electrodes, such as for example, potassium chloride, a silver chloride, etc., are used for a reference electrode. [for example,]

[0024] Next, as shown in drawing 2 (d), the guide for plating of the part equivalent to the wall of a protective cover is formed with photolithography. Width of face of the slot where the thickness of the photoresist 91 at this time is equivalent to 50 micrometers - about 100 micrometers and the thickness of a wall is set to 50 micrometers - about 100 micrometers.

[0025] Next, as shown in drawing 2 (e), the field 42 which is equivalent to the wall of a protective cover with the electrolytic plating of a metallic material is formed, and the low melting glass which is an insulating member and is also a binder 8 is formed by screen-stencil on a protective cover 42 after that at about 5-10 micrometers in thickness. In addition, although resin, solder, etc. are sufficient as this binder 8, when using a conductive member, it is pasted up through an insulating layer.

[0026] Finally, as shown in drawing 2 (f), the covering organizer A which prepared the protective cover with which the photoresist was removed and crevice 42a was formed symmetrically and geometrically is completed.

[0027] Next, the process which manufactures surface acoustic wave equipment S using the above-mentioned covering organizer A is explained based on drawing 3. In addition, also in drawing 3, it illustrates typically like drawing 1 and drawing 2.

[0028] first, it is shown in drawing 3 (a) -- as -- the piezo-electric substrate 1 top -- the excitation electrode 2 and a wiring electrode -- 31 [layer / 1st] is formed. Here, piezo-electric substrates which consist of either, such as an oxide single crystal containing a lithium niobate single crystal substrate, a lithium tantalate

single crystal substrate, the Xtal crystal substrate, a tetraboric-acid lithium single crystal substrate, the lanthanum that is a langasite mold single crystal, a gallium, and VA group elements (niobium, tantalum, etc.), such as a piezo-electric substrate and a PZT substrate, can be used for the piezo-electric substrate 1. The 1st layer of the aluminum alloy of the excitation electrode 2 and the wiring electrode 3 with which 31 added aluminum or copper is used. Although the excitation electrode 2 is for performing excitation and reception and is using the surface acoustic wave as the monolayer by this example, it is also possible to consider as a multilayer electrode for the reason on the power-proof disposition of an electrode. These membrane formation is performed by vacuum evaporation or the spatter, and it carries out to 0.2 micrometers - about 0.5 micrometers in thickness.

[0029] next, it is shown in drawing 3 (b) -- as -- the wiring electrode 3 -- 32 [layer / 2nd] is selectively formed with photolithography. Nickel, chromium, titanium, etc. and copper are used as an electrode material of the 2nd layer of the wiring electrode 3. the wiring electrode 3 -- the 2nd layer of the thickness of 32 is set to 0.2 micrometers - about 0.5 micrometers.

[0030] next, as shown in drawing 3 (c), boil and carry out alignment of the above-mentioned covering organizer A, it is made to lay to the excitation electrode 2 on the piezo-electric substrate 1, and it pastes up through the insulating member adhesives 8 which consist of low melting glass in an inert gas ambient atmosphere. The adhesion temperature of this low melting glass is 350 degrees C - 450 degrees C.

[0031] Next, as shown in drawing 3 (d), polish removes some of substrates 11 used for protective cover formation, and electrodes 41 for plating, and the guide for plating for forming the pillar-shaped electrode which carries out a postscript by plating is formed with photolithography. This polish is performed in two steps, rough grinding by mechanical polish of only an abrasive material, and mechanochemical polishing. Thickness of a photoresist 9 is set to 200 micrometers - 400 micrometers. Moreover, the path of the hole for pillar-shaped

electrodes may be 50 micrometers - 200 micrometers.

[0032] Next, as shown in drawing 3 (e), the pillar-shaped electrode 5 is formed by copper electrolytic plating. In electric-field liquid, it is a copper sulfate 0.5 - 1.0x103 mol / m3. A sulfuric acid 1.5 - 2x103 mol / m3 It uses and the normal electrode of potassium chloride and a silver chloride is used for a reference electrode.

[0033] Next, a photoresist 9 is removed as shown in drawing 3 (f). Then, the 2nd layer of the wiring electrode for pillar-shaped electrode formation, the pillar-shaped electrode 5 and a protective cover 4 are used as a mask, and etching removes a part of 31. Dry etching, such as wet etching or RIE, is used for etching. [0034] Next, it is a wrap about the periphery section of the pillar-shaped electrode 5 that the external covering 6 which consists of resin by the extrusion-molding method of heat-curing resin as shown in drawing 3 (g) is also at least. At this time, the upper part of the pillar-shaped electrode 5 can be exposed from a resin object by equipping with about 100-micrometer resin film in thickness the field of the die which presses down resin from the upper part. Thickness of the external covering 6 is set to 200 micrometers - 400 micrometers. In addition, as long as it is satisfactory in reinforcement, the top face of a protective cover 4 etc. may be exposed outside.

[0035] Finally, as shown in drawing 3 (h), the wafer with which the solder bump 7 was formed and two or more surface acoustic wave equipments S were contained is completed by screen-stenciling and carrying out a reflow of the cream solder to the upper part of a pillar-shaped electrode. By cutting this wafer by dicing etc., each surface acoustic wave equipment S is obtained. Thus, the elastic surface equipment S with which it has high-reliability and the ultimate miniaturization of magnitude equivalent to a chip size was realized can be manufactured by the approach by which it was rich in mass production nature, and the process was simplified substantially. And surface acoustic wave equipment S can be easily mounted in an external circuit substrate, using the upper bed section of the pillar-shaped electrode 5 as an input/output terminal.

[0036] Drawing 4 (a), (b), and drawing 5 (a) and (b) are drawings showing typically the situation of the excitation electrode section at the time of realizing a ladder mold filter and a dual mode resonator mold filter in the above-mentioned surface acoustic wave equipment S.

[0037] Drawing 4 (a) shows the pattern of the excitation electrode 2 on the piezo-electric substrate 1, and a wiring electrode (input pad 3a, output pad 3b, touch-down pad 3c), and drawing 5 (a) shows the pattern of the excitation electrode 2 and a wiring electrode (input pad 3e and output pad 3m, the touch-down pads 3d, 3f, 3k, and 3n, no connection (No Connect) pads 3g, 3h, 3i, and 3j). Moreover, drawing 4 (b) and drawing 5 (b) show the cross section of the wall surface part of a protective cover 4.

[0038] Thus, when only the part equivalent to the upper part of the excitation electrode 2 arranges the crevice of a protective cover symmetrically and geometrically, the mechanical dependability of a protective cover 4 can be raised greatly, and when it is the large design of an electrode surface product, it is effective especially.

[0039] Moreover, by considering as the above-mentioned configuration, by making conductive covering intervene between an input and an output, the isolation during I/O becomes good and a damping property improves. Moreover, since the input/output terminal and earth terminal in the upper bed section of the pillar-shaped electrode 5 become symmetrical, connection with the circuit board becomes simple. Moreover, in the case of the dual mode resonator mold filter shown especially in drawing 5, an attenuation pole can be made from making a suitable capacity intervene among 3g-3i or 3h-3j near the band, and control of bandwidth and the magnitude of attenuation can be performed.

[0040]

[Example] Next, the concrete example of the surface acoustic wave filter element which applied this invention is explained.

[0041] First, as shown in drawing 3 (a), an excitation electrode and the 1st layer of a wiring electrode were formed in the piezo-electric substrate. The aluminum

alloy (1 % of the weight of copper contents) was used for the electrode of the 1st layer of an excitation electrode and a wiring electrode at the piezo-electric substrate using 36 degreeY cut lithium tantalate substrate with a thickness of 350 microns. Electrode thickness was made into 3000A. a wiring electrode -- the 2nd layer, using the two-layer electrode of nickel/copper, each thickness was made into 1000A and 2000A, and was selectively formed in 32 using photolithography. [0042] Next, as shown in drawing 3 (c), the protective cover 4 formed on the silicon substrate was pasted up with low melting glass, and the silicon substrate and the metal membrane 41 for protective cover plating formation were removed using the grinder after that.

[0043] Next, as shown in drawing 3 (d) and (e), the guide for forming a pillar-shaped electrode by plating was formed by the photoresist, and the pillar-shaped electrode was formed in copper electrolytic plating. The diameter of this pillar-shaped electrode was 100 micrometers, and height was 400 micrometers. [0044] Next, as shown in drawing 3 (f) and (g), after removing the photoresist for a plating guide, closure by the extrusion-molding method was performed using the thermosetting resin for moulds. It was made exposed [the upper part of a pillar-shaped electrode] from the resin layer 6 here by equipping with the heat-resistant resin film of 100-micrometer thickness the die which presses down resin from the upper part. The resin bed depth could be about 400 microns. [0045] Next, after screen-stenciling cream solder in the upper part of a pillar-shaped electrode by the thickness of 10 micrometers, a reflow was performed at 270 degrees C and the solder bump was formed.

[0046] The substrate was separated, at the end, dicing separated surface acoustic wave equipment for every piece, and surface acoustic wave equipment was manufactured.

[0047] Thus, since the excitation electrode of the manufactured surface acoustic wave equipment was protected by a metal protective cover and closure resin, while having high dependability, it has the almost same occupancy area as a surface acoustic element (1mmx1.5mm), and low back-ization with a height of

0.8mm has been realized.

[0048]

[Effect of the Invention] As mentioned above, as stated to the detail, according to the surface acoustic wave equipment of this invention, a surface acoustic element can be protected certainly, securing the oscillating space of an excitation electrode. Moreover, cases, such as a package like before, can be made unnecessary, having an input/output terminal. Thereby, it is reliable, and a surface mount is possible, and a surface acoustic element and the surface acoustic wave equipment miniaturized almost ultimately [the same size] can be offered.

[0049] Moreover, when the area which an excitation electrode and an I/O pad occupy is large, mechanical dependability can be further improved by dividing the crevice formed in the protective cover for every formation field of an excitation electrode.

[0050] Moreover, if two or more crevices formed in the protective cover are crevices where each became independent, it cannot be overemphasized that it is effective, but the same effectiveness is acquired, even if crevices are connected so that a mechanical strength may not be spoiled. Thereby, dependability can be raised further and the outstanding surface acoustic wave equipment which can be miniaturized can be offered.

[0051] According to the manufacture approach of the surface acoustic wave equipment of this invention, it becomes possible to perform all processes in a wafer process, and a finished product can be obtained by cutting into the surface acoustic wave equipment of each [a dicing process] the wafer which consists of much surface acoustic wave equipments.

[0052] Therefore, it is not necessary to realize wafer level packaging, to prepare a package (protection case) for every surface acoustic wave equipment like before, and to assemble the elastic surface element chip-ized through the dicing process according to an individual, therefore assembly equipments, such as a small die bonder of a throughput, a wire bonder, and a seam welder, become

unnecessary, and simplification and fertilization of a large production process can be attained.

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the sectional view showing typically the surface acoustic wave equipment concerning this invention.

[Drawing 2] (a) - (f) is the sectional view showing the production process of a covering organizer typically, respectively.

[Drawing 3] (a) - (h) is the sectional view showing typically the production process of the surface acoustic wave equipment concerning this invention, respectively.

[Drawing 4] It is drawing explaining the mode of the ladder mold surface acoustic wave filter element concerning this invention, and (a) is the top view mainly showing the appearance of an electrode pattern, and (b) is the fragmentary sectional view mainly showing the appearance of a protective cover and a pillar-shaped electrode.

[Drawing 5] It is drawing explaining the mode of the dual mode resonator mold

surface acoustic wave filter element concerning this invention, and (a) is the top view mainly showing the appearance of an electrode pattern, and (b) is the fragmentary sectional view mainly showing the appearance of a protective cover and a pillar-shaped electrode.

[Drawing 6] It is the sectional view showing conventional surface acoustic wave equipment typically.

[Description of Notations]

- 1: Piezo-electric Substrate
- 2: Excitation Electrode
- 3: Wiring Electrode (I/O Pad and Touch-down Pad are Included)
- 4 : Protective Cover
- 5 : Pillar-shaped Electrode
- 6 : External Covering (Insulator)
- 7 : Solder Bump (Insulating Member)
- 8: Low Melting Glass
- 9: Photoresist
- 11 : Substrate for Covering Formation
- A: Covering organizer
- G: Oscillating space
- S: Surface acoustic wave equipment

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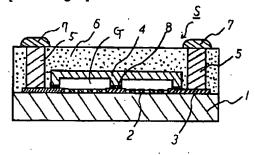
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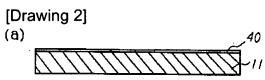
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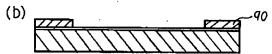
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DRAWINGS

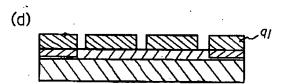
[Drawing 1]

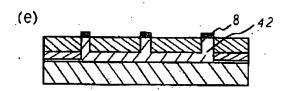


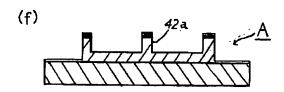




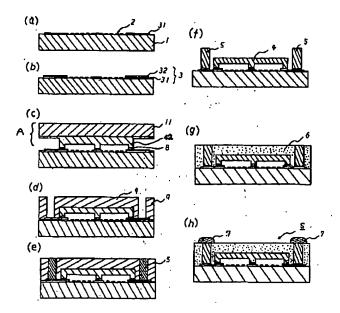




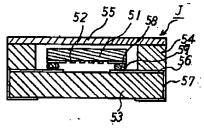




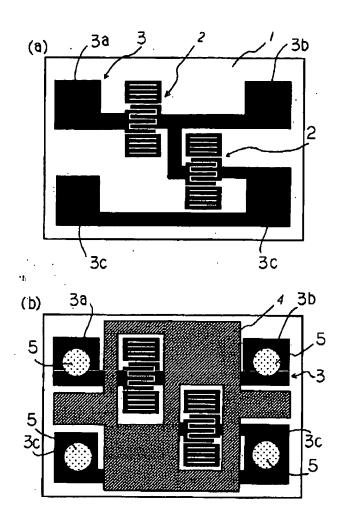
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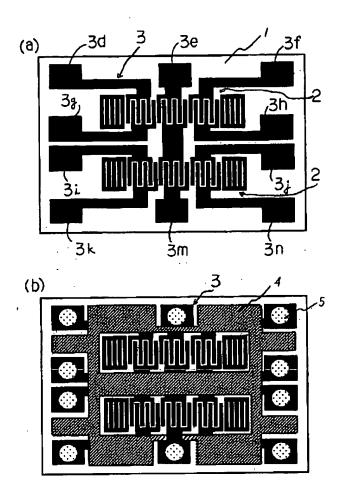
[Drawing 6]



[Drawing 4]



[Drawing 5]



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(19)日本国等許庁 (JP) (12) 公開特許公報 (A)

(11)特許出願公開番号 特開2000-261284 (P2000-261284A)

(43)公開日 平成12年9月22日(2000.9.22)

(51) Int.Cl.7 H03H 9/25

3/08

戲別配号

FΙ

テーマコード(参考)

H 0 3 H 9/25

3/08

A 5 J 0 9 7

審査請求 未請求 請求項の数3 〇L (全 7 頁)

(21)出願番号

特願平11-59269

(22) 別顧日

平成11年3月5日(1999.3.5)

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Fターム(参考) 5J097 AA29 AA31 AA33 BB11 DD25

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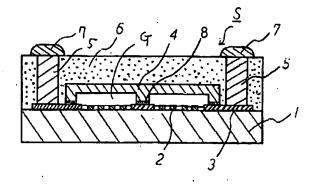
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(54) 【発明の名称】 弾性表面波装置及びその製造方法

(57)【要約】

【課題】 外形の占有面積の大きさが内蔵する弾性表面 波素子とほぼ等しい、究極に小型化された表面実装可能 な弾性表面波フィルタや振動子等の弾性表面波装置、及 び、ウエハ状態でパッケージングまで行うことが可能で 量産性に優れた製造方法を提供することを目的とする。

【解決手段】 圧電基板1上に保護カバー4で覆った励 振電極 2 及び該励振電極 2 に接続される入出力パッド 3 a, 3bを形成し、各入出力パッド上に柱状電極5を立 設するとともに、少なくとも柱状電極5の外周部を絶縁 体6で包囲して成り、柱状電極5の上端部を電気信号の 入出力端子としたことを特徴とする弾性表面波装置Sと する。



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 圧電基板上に保護カバーで覆った励振電極及び該励振電極に接続される入出力パッドを形成し、各入出力パッド上に柱状電極を立設するとともに、少なくとも前記柱状電極の外周部を絶縁体で包囲して成り、前記柱状電極の上端部を電気信号の入出力端子としたことを特徴とする弾性表面波装置。

【請求項2】 前記保護カバーは導電性を有し、且つ前 記入出力パッド上に絶縁部材を介して配設されているこ とを特徴とする請求項1に記載の弾性表面波装置。

【請求項3】 保護カバーをカバー形成用基板上に形成する工程と、励振電極及び該励振電極に接続される入出カパッドを圧電基板上に形成する工程と、前記保護カバーで前記励振電極を覆うべく保護カバーを圧電基板に接着する工程と、前記カバー形成用基板を除去する工程と、前記入出カパッド上に柱状電極を形成する工程と、少なくとも前記柱状電極の外周部を絶縁体で包囲し前記柱状電極の上端部を入出力端子とする工程とを含むことを特徴とする弾性表面波装置の製造方法。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、移動体通信機器等の無線通信回路に主に用いられる弾性表面波装置に関し、特に表面実装可能な弾性表面波装置の小型化及びウエハプロセスでパッケージングまで行うことの可能な弾性表面波装置及びその製造方法に関するものである。

[0002]

【従来の技術】近年、電波を利用する電子機器のフィルタ、遅延線、発信機等の素子として多くの弾性表面波装置が用いられている。特に小型・軽量でかつフィルタとしての急峻遮断性能が高い弾性表面波フィルタは、移動体通信分野において、携帯端末装置のRF段及びIF段のフィルタとして多用されるようになって来ている。

【0003】携帯端末装置は小型・軽量化が進むとともに、複数の通信システムに対応するマルチバンド化により内蔵する回路が増加してきており、使用される電子部品はその実装密度向上のため表面実装可能な小型部品が強く要望されている。携帯端末装置のキーパーツである弾性表面波フィルタにおいても、低損失かつ通過帯域外の遮断特性とともに、表面実装可能な小型の弾性表面波フィルタが要求されている。

【0004】従来、弾性表面波フィルタは、キャンパッケージ型のものよりセラミックパッケージ型が実用化されているが、中でもセラミックパッケージ型は、キャンパッケージ型に比べ、表面実装可能で小型化が実現できる弾性表面波装置として広く用いられるようになってきている。

【0005】第1世代のセラミックパッケージ型弾性表面波フィルタは、パッケージ内に接着固定した弾性表面波素子とパッケージの内部電極とをワイヤーボンディン

グにより電気接続していたが、ワイヤーボンディングを 用いることによりパッケージ外形が大きくなり、弾性表 面波フィルタは内蔵する弾性表面波素子の5倍~6倍の 占有面積となっていた。

【0006】これを解決し小型化を図るために、第2世代のセラミックパッケージ型弾性表面波フィルタとして、図6に示すように、弾性表面波索子をパッケージ内部にフェースダウンボンディングしたものが実用化されてきている。

【0007】この弾性表面波フィルタJは、主として励振電極2が形成された圧電性の単結晶から成る基板51と、それを収容して成るセラミックパッケージから成るものであり、セミックパッケージは基体53、枠体54、蓋体55及び内部電極56、外部電極57等から成る。弾性表面波素子はパッド58及びバンプ59を介して、その励振電極52とパッケージの外部電極57とが電気的に接続されている。

【0008】この弾性表面波フィルタJでは、ワイヤーボンディングを使用していないので、第1世代のセラミックパッケージ型弾性表面波フィルタに比べ、約2分の1の小型化が図れている。

[0009]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、第2世代のフェースダウン実装方式のセラミックパッケージ型弾性表面波フィルタにおいても、パッケージの外形の大きさは、内蔵する弾性表面波素子の約3倍であり、十分に小型化されていないという問題がある。

【0010】また、従来のパッケージへの実装方法は、 デバイスチップをウエハから切断した後に、個別のパッ ケージを用いて組み立てを行うために、量産性に欠ける という欠点があった。

【0011】そこで、本発明はこのような課題に対処するためになされたものであり、外形の占有面積の大きさが内蔵する弾性表面波素子とほぼ等しい、究極に小型化された表面実装可能な弾性表面波フィルタや振動子等の弾性表面波装置、及び、ウエハ状態でパッケージングまで行うことが可能で量産性に優れた製造方法を提供することを目的とする。

[0012]

【課題を解決するための手段】上記課題を解決するために、本発明の弾性表面波装置は、圧電基板上に保護カバーで覆った励振電極及び該励振電極に接続される入出力パッドを形成し、各入出力パッド上に柱状電極を立設するとともに、少なくとも柱状電極の外周部を絶縁体で包囲して成り、柱状電極の上端部を電気信号の入出力端子としたことを特徴とする。

【0013】特に、保護カバーは導電性を有し、且つ入 出力パッド上に絶縁部材を介して配設されていることを 特徴とする。

【0014】また、本発明の弾性表面波装置の製造方法

は、保護カバーをカバー形成用基板上に形成する工程と、励振電極及び該励振電極に接続される入出力パッドを圧電基板上に形成する工程と、前記保護カバーで前記励振電極を覆うべく保護カバーを圧電基板に接着する工程と、カバー形成用基板を除去する工程と、入出力パッド上に柱状電極を形成する工程と、少なくとも柱状電極の外周部を絶縁体で包囲し柱状電極の上端部を入出力端子とする工程とを含む。

【0015】ここで、保護カバーは特にメッキで形成するのが効率的に作製できる上に堅固な構成とすることが可能である。また、この保護カバーは励振電極の振動空間を確保するために、少なくとも励振電極を構成する例えば櫛歯状電極に相当する領域に凹部を設けた態様とする。さらに、この凹部は励振電極の形成領域に応じて複数領域に形成してもよく、また、対称的に又は幾何学的に配置されるようにするとよい。

[0016]

【発明の実施の形態】以下、本発明に係わる弾性表面波 装置の一実施形態を図面に基づいて説明する。

【0017】図1は弾性表面波装置Sを模式的に示す要 部断面図であって、励振電極及び二つの柱状電極を通る 断面線で切断した様子を模式的に示したものであり、そ の断面の様子を必ずしも正確に図示したものではない。

【0018】弾性表面波装置 Sは、圧電基板1上に櫛歯状を成す励振電極2と、これに接続され入出力パッド及び接地パッドを含む配線電極3と、配線電極3(少なくとも入出力パッド)上に立設した複数の柱状電極5と、励振電極2の上方を励振電極2の振動空間Gを確保すべく覆う金属等から成る保護カバー4と、少なくとも柱状電極5の外周部を樹脂等の絶縁体から成る外部カバー6とを配設して成り、柱状電極5の上端部を電気信号の入出力端子としている。7は半田バンプであり、例えば外部回路基板(不図示)へ半田バンプでが形成された側を下にして実装することが可能である。

【0019】ここで、保護カバー4を導電性とすることで外乱となる電波等に対してシールドすることができ、弾性表面波装置の安定化を図ることが可能である。ただし、この場合は保護カバー4は入出力パッド上に絶縁部材8を介して配設される。なお、さらに安定化を図るために、保護カバー4を接地電位に接続するようにしてもよい。

【0020】次に、上記弾性表面波装置Sの製造方法について説明する。まず、保護カバー4が配設された基板11上での作製工程について図2に基づき説明する。なお、図2は簡単のため一つの弾性表面波素子を形成するのに必要な基板上に保護カバーを作製する工程を模式的、部分的に図示したものであり、実際には後記するウエハに形成した励振電極領域に合致する保護カバー形成域が多数存在しているものとする。

【0021】図2(a)に示すように、弾性表面波索子

を形成する圧電基板と同サイズの基板(カバー形成用基板)11にメッキ用の電極膜40を形成する。なお、基板11には圧電性材料、シリコン、ガラス等を用いることができる。また、電極膜40は銅等の金属材料を用い、例えばスパッタ成膜により厚さ0.2μm~1μm程度に形成する。

【0022】次に、図2(b)に示すように、保護カバーの上部に相当する部分のメッキ用ガイドをフォトリソグラフィーにより形成する。ここで、フォトレジスト90の厚さは50μm~100μm程度とする。

【0023】次に、図2(c)に示すように、上記金属材料 (例えば銅)の電解メッキにより保護カバーの上部側に相当する領域41を形成する。このときに使用する電界液には、例えば硫酸銅 $0.5\sim1.0\times10^3$ mol m^3 と硫酸 $1.5\sim2\times10^3$ mol m^3 等を用い、参照電極には例えば塩化カリウム・塩化銀等の標準電極を用いる。

【0024】次に、図2(d)に示すように、保護カバーの壁部に相当する部分のメッキ用ガイドをフォトリソグラフィーにより形成する。このときのフォトレジスト91の厚みは 50μ m~ 100μ m程度、また壁の厚さに相当する溝の幅は 50μ m~ 100μ m程度とする。【0025】次に、図2(e)に示すように、金属材料の電解メッキにより保護カバーの壁部に相当する領域42を形成し、その後、保護カバー42の上にスクリーン印刷により絶縁部材で且つ接着材8でもある低融点ガラスを厚さ5~ 10μ m程度に形成する。なお、この接着材8は樹脂や半田等でもよいが、導電性部材を用いる場合には絶縁層を介して接着する。

【0026】最後に、図2(f)に示すように、フォトレジストを除去して凹部42aが対称的、幾何学的に形成された保護カバーを設けたカバー形成体Aが完成する

【0027】次に、上記カバー形成体Aを用いて弾性表面波装置Sを製造する工程について図3に基づいて説明する。なお、図3においても図1及び図2と同様に模式的に図示したものである。

【0028】まず、図3(a)に示すように、圧電基板1上に励振電極2及び配線電極の第1層目31を形成する。ここで、圧電基板1には、ニオブ酸リチウム単結晶基板,タンタル酸リチウム単結晶基板,水晶結晶基板,四ホウ酸リチウム単結晶基板,ランガサイト型単結晶であるランタン、ガリウム、VA族元素(ニオブ、タンタル等)を含む酸化物単結晶等のいずれかから成る圧電基板、PZT基板等の圧電基板等を用いることができる。励振電極2及び配線電極3の第1層目31はアルミニウムまたは銅等を添加したアルミニウム合金が用いられる。励振電極2は弾性表面波を励振及び受信を行うためのものであり、本実施例では単層としているが、電極の耐電力性向上のため多層電極とすることも可能である。

これらの成膜は蒸着又はスパッタで行い、厚さ0.2μm~0.5μm程度とする。

【0029】次に、図3(b)に示すように、配線電極3の第2層目32をフォトリソグラフィーにより選択的に形成する。配線電極3の第2層目の電極材料としてニッケル、クロム、チタン等と銅を用いる。配線電極3の第2層目32の厚さは0.2 μ m \sim 0.5 μ m程度とする。

【0030】次に、図3(c)に示すように、上記したカバー形成体Aを圧電基板1上の励振電極2に対してに位置合わせして載置させ、不活性ガス雰囲気中で低融点ガラスから成る絶縁部材接着剤8を介して接着する。この低融点ガラスの接着温度は350℃~450℃である。

【0031】次に、図3(d)に示すように、保護カバー形成用に用いた基板11及びメッキ用電極41の一部を研磨により除去し、後記する柱状電極をメッキで形成するためのメッキ用ガイドをフォトリソグラフィーで形成する。この研磨は、研磨剤のみのメカニカル研磨による粗研磨とメカノケミカル研磨の2段階で行う。フォトレジスト9の厚さは200μm~400μmとする。また、柱状電極用の穴の径は50μm~200μmとする。

【0032】次に、図3(e)に示すように、銅の電解メッキにより、柱状電極5を形成する。電界液には、硫酸銅 $0.5\sim1.0\times10^3$ mol $/m^3$ と硫酸 $1.5\sim2\times10^3$ mol $/m^3$ を用い、参照電極には塩化カリウム・塩化銀の標準電極を用いる。

【0033】次に、図3(f)に示すように、フォトレジスト9を除去する。その後、柱状電極形成用の配線電極第2層目31の一部を、柱状電極5及び保護カバー4をマスクにしてエッチングにより除去する。エッチングにはウエットエッチング又はRIE等のドライエッチングが用いられる。

【0034】次に、図3(g)に示すように、熱硬化樹脂の押し出し成形法により樹脂から成る外部カバー6でもって少なくとも柱状電極5の外周部を覆う。この時、樹脂を上部から押えるダイの面に厚さ約100μm樹脂フィルムを装着しておくことにより、柱状電極5の上部を樹脂体から露出させることができる。外部カバー6の厚さは200μm~400μmとする。なお、強度的に問題がなければ保護カバー4の上面等を外部に露出させてもよい。

【0035】最後に、図3(h)に示すように、クリーム半田を柱状電極の上部にスクリーン印刷し、リフローすることにより半田バンプ7を形成し弾性表面波装置Sが複数個含まれたウエハが完成する。このウエハをダイシング等で切断することにより、個々の弾性表面波装置Sが得られる。このようにして、高信頼性を有し且つチップサイズと同等な大きさの究極的な小型化が実現され

た弾性表面装置Sを、量産性に富み大幅に工程が簡略化された方法で製造することができる。そして、柱状電極5の上端部を入出力端子として用い、外部回路基板に弾性表面波装置Sを容易に実装することができる。

【0036】図4(a)(b)及び図5(a)(b)は、上記弾性表面波装置Sにおいて、ラダー型フィルタと二重モード共振器型フィルタを実現した場合の励振電極部分の様子を模式的に示す図である。

【0037】図4(a)は圧電基板1上の励振電極2及び配線電極(入力パッド3a、出力パッド3b、接地パッド3c)のパターンを示し、図5(a)は励振電極2及び配線電極(入力パッド3e、出力パッド3m、接地パッド3d,3f,3k,3n、ノーコネクト(No Connect)パッド3g,3h,3i,3j)のパターンを示したものである。また、図4(b),図5(b)は保護カバー4の壁面部分の断面模式図を示したものである。【0038】このように、励振電極2の上部に相当する部分のみ保護カバーの凹部を対称的,幾何学的に配設することにより、保護カバー4の機械的信頼性を大きく向上させることができ、特に、電極面積の大きい設計の場合には有効である。

【0039】また、上記構成とすることで、入力と出力間に、導電性カバーを介在させることで、入出力間のアイソレーションが良好となり、減衰特性が向上する。また、柱状電極5の上端部における入出力端子と接地端子が対称となるので、回路基板との接続が簡便となる。また、特に図5に示す二重モード共振器型フィルタの場合、3g-3iまたは3h-3j間に、適当な容量を介在させることで、帯域近傍に減衰極を作ることができ、帯域幅及び減衰量の制御ができる。

[0040]

【実施例】次に、本発明を適用した弾性表面波フィルタ 素子の具体的な実施例について説明する。

【0041】まず、図3(a)に示すように、圧電基板に励振電極と配線電極第1層目を形成した。圧電基板には厚さ350ミクロンの36°Yカットタンタル酸リチウム基板を用い、励振電極及び配線電極の第1層目の電極にはアルミニウム合金(銅含有量1重量%)を用いた。電極厚さは3000Åとした。配線電極の第2層目32にはニッケル/銅の2層電極を用い、それぞれの厚さは1000Å,2000Åとし、フォトリソグラフィーを用いて選択的に形成した。

【0042】次に図3(c)に示すように、シリコン基板上に形成された保護カバー4を低融点ガラスで接着し、その後研磨機を用いてシリコン基板及び保護カバーメッキ形成用金属膜41を除去した。

【0043】次に、図3(d), (e)に示すように、 柱状電極をメッキにて形成するためのガイドをフォトレ ジストで形成し、銅の電解メッキにて柱状電極を形成し た。この柱状電極の直径は100μm、高さは400μ mであった。

【0044】次に、図3(f),(g)に示すように、メッキガイド用のフォトレジストを除去した後、熱硬化性のモールド用樹脂を用い、押し出し成形法による封止を行った。ここで、樹脂を上部から押えるダイに100μm厚の耐熱樹脂フィルムを装着することにより、柱状電極の上部が樹脂層6より露出するようにした。樹脂層厚みは約400ミクロンとした。

【0045】次に、クリーム半田を10μmの厚さで、 柱状電極の上部にスクリーン印刷した後、リフローを2 70℃で行い、半田バンプを形成した。

【0046】最後に、基板をダイシングにより弾性表面 波装置を1個毎に分離し弾性表面波装置を製造した。

【0047】このようにして製造した弾性表面波装置の励振電極は金属製の保護カバーおよび封止樹脂により保護されているので、高い信頼性を有するとともに、弾性表面波素子(1mm×1.5mm)とほぼ同じ占有面積を有し、高さ0.8mmの低背化が実現できた。

[0048]

【発明の効果】以上、詳細に述べたように、本発明の弾性表面波装置によれば、励振電極の振動空間を確保しつつ弾性表面波素子を確実に保護することができる。また、入出力端子を有しつつ、従来のようなパッケージ等の筐体を不要とすることができる。これにより、信頼性が高く、表面実装可能であり、且つ弾性表面波素子とほぼ同サイズの究極的に小型化された弾性表面波装置を提供することができる。

【0049】また、励振電極及び入出力パッドの占める 面積が大きい場合には、保護カバーに形成した凹部を励 振電極の形成領域毎に分割することにより、更に機械的 信頼性を向上することができる。

【0050】また、保護カバーに形成された複数個の凹部は、それぞれが独立した凹部であれば有効であるのは言うまでもないが、機械的強度を損なわないように凹部どうしが繋がっていても同様の効果が得られる。これにより、更に信頼性を高めることができ小型化が可能な優れた弾性表面波装置を提供することができる。

【0051】本発明の弾性表面波装置の製造方法によれば、全ての工程をウエハプロセスで行うことが可能となり、多数の弾性表面波装置から成るウエハをダイシング工程で個々の弾性表面波装置にカッティングすることに

より完成品を得ることができる。

【0052】したがって、ウエハレベルパッケージングを実現することができ、従来のように各弾性表面波装置毎にパッケージ(保護筐体)を準備し、ダイシング工程を経てチップ化された弾性表面素子を個別に組み立てる必要がなく、そのため、処理能力の小さいダイボンダー、ワイヤーボンダー、シーム溶接機等の組立装置が不要となり、大幅な製造工程の簡略化と量産化を図ることができる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明に係わる弾性表面波装置を模式的に示す 断面図である。

【図2】(a)~(f)はそれぞれカバー形成体の製造工程を模式的に示す断面図である。

【図3】(a)~(h)はそれぞれ本発明に係わる弾性表面波装置の製造工程を模式的に示す断面図である。

【図4】本発明に係るラダー型弾性表面波フィルタ素子の態様を説明する図であり、(a)は主に電極パターンの様子を示す平面図であり、(b)は主に保護カバー及び柱状電極の様子を示す部分断面図である。

【図5】本発明に係る二重モード共振器型弾性表面波フィルタ素子の態様を説明する図であり、(a)は主に電極パターンの様子を示す平面図であり、(b)は主に保護カバー及び柱状電極の様子を示す部分断面図である。

【図6】従来の弾性表面波装置を模式的に示す断面図である。

【符号の説明】

1 : 圧電基板 2 : 励振電極

3 : 配線電極(入出力パッド及び接地パッドを含

む)

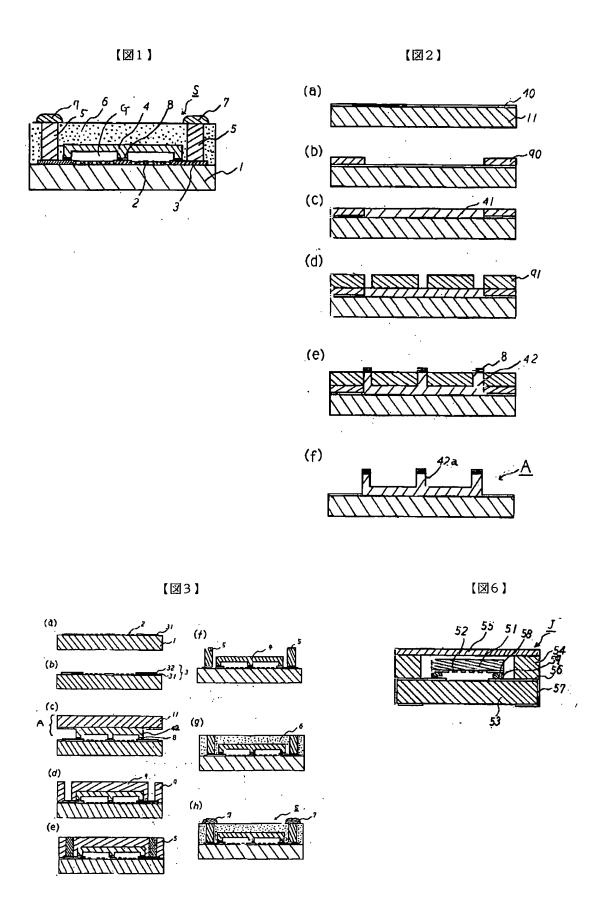
4 : 保護カバー5 : 柱状電極

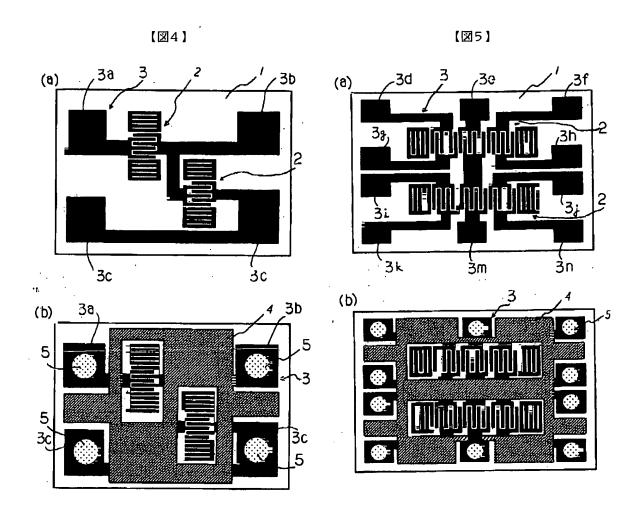
6 : 外部カバー(絶縁体) 7 : 半田バンプ(絶縁部材)

8 : 低融点ガラス9 : フォトレジスト11 : カバー形成用基板A : カバー形成体

G : 振動空間

S : 弾性表面波装置





1